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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 61

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007

INTRODUCED BY

Gerald P. Ortiz y Pino

A JOINT MEMORIAL

**REQUESTING A STUDY ON THE BALANCE OF MILITARY RECRUITERS'
MESSAGES IN NEW MEXICO'S SECONDARY SCHOOLS.**

WHEREAS, Section 9528 of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, also known as the No Child Left Behind Act, requires that "each local educational agency receiving assistance under this act shall provide, on a request made by military recruiters or an institution of higher education, access to secondary school students names, addresses, and telephone listings"; and

WHEREAS, Section 9528 of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act requires secondary schools to admit military recruiters to the same extent as colleges or employers; and

WHEREAS, this provision has resulted in frequent visits

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1 to most secondary schools in New Mexico; and

2 WHEREAS, frequent visits impose time and attention costs,
3 financial costs and risks on each secondary school, detracting
4 from its educational mission; and

5 WHEREAS, frequent and extensive visits can result in
6 influence incompatible with local control over secondary
7 school curricula; and

8 WHEREAS, military recruiters are often adult males and,
9 increasingly, more new recruits are young women; and

10 WHEREAS, students may regard uniformed military members
11 as persons of authority or special trust and be particularly
12 vulnerable to them; and

13 WHEREAS, hundred of cases of military recruiter
14 improprieties and misconduct have been reported in the last
15 two years across the United States, some resulting in criminal
16 convictions; and

17 WHEREAS, military recruiters operate under the pressure
18 of meeting a quota; and

19 WHEREAS, the personal costs and risks involved in
20 military enlistment are categorically different than other
21 career or educational options available to students; and

22 WHEREAS, the total amount spent by the United States
23 department of defense on all military recruiting exceeds four
24 billion dollars (\$4,000,000,000) per year;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE

. 167770. 1

underscoring material = new
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1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public education department
2 encourage all New Mexico secondary schools to provide balanced
3 information about critical life choices involving the
4 military; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
6 department undertake a study to determine to what extent
7 balance to military recruiters' messages is provided in all
8 New Mexico secondary schools; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
10 transmitted to the secretary of public education.